

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A remote control system for controlling remotely electronic equipment connected via a firewall to an external network, comprising:

command information memory for storing command information transmitted from a user terminal via said external network; and

command information transmission means for receiving a command fetch request transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network, reading out command information corresponding to that request from said command information memory, and transmitting said command information via said external network to said electronic equipment as a response to that command fetch request.

2. A remote control system for controlling remotely electronic equipment connected via a firewall to an external network, comprising:

wait state setting means for receiving a command fetch request from said electronic equipment via said external network, and setting a wait state for that command information; and

command information transmission means for receiving command information transmitted from a user terminal via said external network, and transmitting that

command information to said electronic equipment as a response to said command fetch request.

3. The remote control system according to claim 1 or 2, further having: state information memory for receiving and storing state information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network; and state information transmission means for transmitting state information stored in said state information memory to said user terminal.

4. The remote control system according to claim 1 or 2, further having: state information memory means for receiving and storing state information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network; state information analysis means for analyzing state information stored in said state information memory means; and analysis results transmission means for transmitting analysis results from said state information analysis means to said user terminal.

5. The remote control system according to claim 4, wherein: said analysis results transmission means transmits said analysis results to said user terminal by electronic mail; and said command information transmission means extracts command information from electronic mail transmitted from said user terminal as reply to electronic mail transmitting said analysis

results, and transmits that command information to said electronic equipment.

6. The remote control system according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said command information transmission means, in cases where information pertaining to command execution time period for said electronic equipment is contained in command information received from said user terminal, transmit that command information at a time corresponding to that command execution time period when that electronic equipment has no time control function.

7. The remote control system according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising means for receiving command execution results information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network, and transmitting that information to said user terminal.

8. A remote control method for controlling remotely electronic equipment connected via a firewall to an external network, comprising the steps of:

storing command information transmitted from a user terminal via said external network;

receiving a command fetch request transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network; and

reading out command information corresponding to that request and transmitting said information via

said external network to said electronic equipment as a response to that command fetch request.

9. A remote control method for controlling remotely electronic equipment connected via a firewall to an external network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a command fetch request from said electronic equipment via said external network, and setting a wait state for that command information; and receiving command information transmitted from a user terminal via said external network, and transmitting that command information to said electronic equipment as a response to said command fetch request.

10. The remote control method according to claim 8 or 9, further comprising the step of receiving command execution results information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network, and transmitting that information to said user terminal.

11. A remote control program product for controlling remotely electronic equipment connected via a firewall to an external network, wherein:

said remote control program product causes a computer to perform the steps of:

storing command information transmitted from a user terminal via said external network;

receiving a command fetch request transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network; and

reading out command information corresponding to that request and transmitting said information via said external network to said electronic equipment as a response to that command fetch request.

12. A remote control program product for controlling remotely electronic equipment connected via a firewall to an external network, wherein:

said remote control program products causes a computer to perform the steps of:

receiving a command fetch request from said electronic equipment via said external network, and setting a wait state for that command information; and

receiving command information transmitted from a user terminal via said external network, and transmitting that command information to said electronic equipment as a response to said command fetch request.

13. The remote control program product according to claim 11 or 12, further comprising the step of receiving command execution results information transmitted from said electronic equipment via said external network, and transmitting that information to said user terminal.